

### Abstract

A food quality indicator device an indicator compound provided on a substrate. The indicator compound changes color due to the presence of volatile compounds, such as volatile bases, in spoiled food, even when the food is frozen. Alternatively, the indicator compound detects the presence of an unwanted amine-producing biological agent, such as bacteria or fungi. The indicator compound is typically contained within a polymeric matrix disposed on the substrate. Examples of suitable indicator compounds include halogenated azo dyes, sulfonated xanthene dyes, and sulfonated hydroxy-functional triphenylmethane dyes.

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<p><b>CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:</b></p> <p>"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL039321045US Date of Deposit: July 16, 1998</p> <p>I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.</p> <p>By: <u>Mark Green</u></p> <p>Name: Mark Green</p>
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